

So I took the liberty after having recalled some conversations after we first handled the Torcaso case, and talked to some people who have been making a study of this issue, and the point we finally came to was that the expression, "In the presence of Almighty God," where it is put, would have the tendency to flow into that first sentence and might be more considered by the court to be part of the oath than the traditional phrase added at the end, "So help me God."

Then it was cited to me that there have been some cases, I do not believe any of them are too recent, that have concerned themselves with the exclamation at the end of the oath, "So help me God," which have held that they do not go to the body of the oath and that if left off or ignored do not affect the oath which was taken. While at first blush it might look as if there is not a difference, there is in truth a difference, and it is for this reason that I recommend this amendment. And I hope there is not a pride of authorship or anything else that would be involved, because I thought if it made any sense I would have said "So help me Almighty God." I do not think it fits.

I think I am trying to give the opportunity to the same people to make the same statement under the same circumstances, but in a way that might be less susceptible to any problems in the future.

THE PRESIDENT: Does any other delegate desire to speak in opposition to the amendment?

*(There was no response.)*

Does any other delegate desire to speak?

Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 2. A vote Aye—Delegate Storm.

DELEGATE STORM: Is it too late for me just to say one sentence?

THE PRESIDENT: Proceed.

DELEGATE STORM: I really think that this is a significant amendment because to start it "In the presence of Almighty God," emphasizes a God forever, a God that is punishing; while to put it at the end—and I am sincere in this—I think it means, please help me to do this, God; and there you really are expressing your faith, rather than your fear. I think it is important.

THE PRESIDENT: Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

The question arises on the adoption of Amendment No. 2 to Committee Recommendation GP-2, as amended by Report S&D-4.

A vote Aye is a vote in favor of the amendment. A vote No is a vote against.

Cast your votes.

Has every delegate voted? Does any delegate desire to change his vote?

*(There was no response.)*

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 52 votes in the affirmative and 67 in the negative, the motion is lost. The amendment is rejected.

The Chair has no further amendments to Committee Recommendation GP-2. Are there any? The Chair hears none.

The question arises on the adoption of Committee Recommendation GP-2, as amended.

Are you ready for the question?

*(Call for the question.)*

The question arises on the adoption of Committee Recommendation GP-2, as amended.

A vote Aye is a vote in favor of Recommendation GP-2. A vote No is a vote against.

Cast your votes.

Has every delegate voted? Does any delegate desire to change his vote?

*(There was no response.)*

The Clerk will record the vote.

There being 89 votes in the affirmative and 33 in the negative, the motion carries. Committee Recommendation GP-2 as amended, is adopted.

The Chair recognizes Delegate Powers, Chairman of the Committee on Calendar and Agenda.

DELEGATE POWERS: Mr. President, I move the Convention resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering general orders of the day.

THE PRESIDENT: For what purpose does Delegate Johnson rise?

DELEGATE JOHNSON: Mr. President, for the purpose of moving for reconsidera-